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THE DEVIL DANCE AT ONE OF MONGOLIA'S IMPORTANT FESTIVALS

This ceremony takes place in the spring and represents the chasing out of the Spirit of Evil. The dance consists of a series of posturings by men and boys, who wear over their heads fierce-looking animal masks.

HOW TO OBTAIN THE BULLETIN

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Dinosaur Eggs and Ancient Kings Unearthed in Mongolia

DUST to dust is the law of nature, but scientists of today, not to be defeated by nature covering up her tracks, find sermons in dust as well as in stones, whether it be in Luxor or Mongolia. Dinosaur eggs, estimated to be millions of years old recently were found in Mongolia.

Tombs of the ancient Mongol kings, unearthed on the site of their old capital, Kharakhoto, which is but little more than a stone's throw from Peking, constitute another discovery in this region calculated to roll back the curtain of years.

Capital During Unknown Era of Mongol Control

Kharakhoto was the seat of Mongol power during a very early period of Mongol history which hitherto has been practically unknown.

What these world-conquering people may have been and may have done in the dim past has been obscured by their strange "boiling over" in the thirteenth century when Genghiz Khan with his cruel, invincible, hard fighting rough-riders from their half barren plains, suddenly became the scourge of East and West alike, and came much closer to conquering the world than even Alexander had done.

Coming into prominence for only a brief moment in the long period of history, these people became masters of China, Korea, Indo-China and Burma in the East, and practically all of Asia west and south of their steppes and even extended their conquests through Russia into the heart of Poland and Hungary.

Kublai Khan, one of Genghiz's early successors, who made Peking the Chinese capital and sat there on the Dragon Throne, probably ruled over a greater territory than any man had done before or has done since. But once out of the saddle—where they were more expert and more at home even than Cossack or American Indian—the Mongols lost their power, and after a century their tremendous empire was only a memory. So dramatic was this sudden rise and fall of the Mongols that it and the somewhat drab period since have passed for Mongol history. There has been little interest in what preceded their brief excursion into world dominion. Records, if they can be dug from Kharakhoto, therefore, will fill out a period of history now practically blank.

Chinese Wall Built to Block Mongol Invasion

One hint of the importance that the Mongols may have attained at an early date is the world's most extensive work of man, the Great Wall of China; for it was in an effort to keep their Mongol neighbors out that the Chinese began that tremendous rampart in 219 B. C. The ruins of Kharakhoto are barely 50 miles outside the Great Wall and not more than 250 miles from Peking. They lie on the southeastern edge of the Gobi Desert in a region where the dryness is reported to have preserved even papers and fabrics of great age. The ruins lie in what has come to be known as Inner Mongolia, a region of old Mongolia into which there has been a considerable infiltration of Chinese in recent centuries.

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HURDLE RACING IN CANOES: A NEW ZEALAND VERSION OF "OVER THE TOP"

Boat-racing, hurdling, and the good old game of teeter-board are combined in this contest. One of the boats is rising to the hurdle, the weight having been shifted to the stern. Another is debating whether to tip forward or back, and the favorite is over and off with a splash. No lumberjack in a log-jam ever had more thrills. (See Bulletin No. 5.)

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How Yellow Fever Germ is Being Put in Dodo Class

A RECENT REPORT based on a world-wide survey states that yellow fever is coming more and more under control of the medical and sanitary agencies of many nations working on the problem. The big strides that have been taken toward conquering this disease in recent years make it possible to predict that medical science can announce soon that yellow fever has been banished from the face of the earth, and that the germ which causes it has become extinct along with the dinosaur, the dodo, the great auk, and the passenger pigeon.

The strongholds of this disease, of which all hot countries stood in terror a generation ago, have been stormed and captured, according to a communication to the National Geographic Society by William Joseph Showalter.

Yellow Fever Germ Turned Bushwacker

"In the world-wide crusade for the conquest of contagion inaugurated after the World War," he writes, "yellow fever stood out as an insolent foe that had been defeated in organized warfare, but it then resorted to sniping and bush-whacking in tropical America and Africa.

"How finally to drive it beyond the bounds of civilization and into the land of extinction became the thought of one of the world's leading sanitary organizations.

"General William C. Gorgas, who had been the Nemesis of the Yellow Jack at Havana and Panama, was induced to head a board whose mission was to run down the disease to its lair and to stamp it out forever. It was while General Gorgas was en route to Africa to extirpate the sources of infection there, that he died in London, at a time when he might almost have realized his life's dream of 'writing the last chapter of the history of yellow fever.'

A Few "Seedbeds" of the Disease are Left

"After Major Walter Reed and his fellow-workers in Cuba had demonstrated that yellow fever is a mosquito-borne disease, General Wood and Colonel Gorgas, by following the principles laid down by Reed, banished it from Cuba; Colonel Gorgas drove it out of Panama; Doctor Oswaldo Cruz eliminated it from Rio de Janeiro, and Doctor Liceaga exterminated it in Vera Cruz.

"But there still remained a few places that served as seedbeds of the disease, against which the world had to quarantine constantly. One of these was Guayaquil, Ecuador, and there were others in Yucatan, Guatemala, and elsewhere.

"Each time a person left one of these communities there was a 'fifty-fifty' chance that he carried the possibilities of a big epidemic in his blood.

"Yet there was no way for the outside world to step in and throttle the disease in its endemic haunts unless invited by the governments in whose territories the disease existed.

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The political pendulum has made frequent swings in Mongolia in late years. It had been recognized as a province of China for many years when, in 1912, Imperial Russia obtained a treaty recognizing its autonomy and granting concessions to Russia. When the Russian Empire collapsed China cancelled the treaty of 1912 and reassumed unrestricted control. Later an anti-Bolshevik force took possession of the capital Urga, and brought about complete independence of Mongolia as a nominal empire. The Bolshevists then gained control and turned the "empire" into a "republic."

Religion Made Pacifists of Wild Warriors

The Mongols of today are of the same strain as their far-conquering predecessors and many of them live the same care-free nomadic life on the plains. But among the people as a whole there has been a tremendous change in habits and outlook on life. Buddhism—or rather its degenerate phase, Lamaism—has wrought the change, and furnishes one of the most striking instances known of the power of a religion to make over a people. The particular aspect of Lamaism that has deeply affected the Mongols is the growth of monasteries. Some estimates are to the effect that as many as one-third of all the men among the Mongols are monks, living in idleness, supported by the remainder of the population.

The Chinese, after the Mongol dynasty was driven from their throne, encouraged Lamaism because the growth of monasticism tended to reduce the birth rate, to keep the remainder of the population in poverty, and to discourage war. Their plan worked so well that the people who 700 years ago were the war-thirsty, ravening scourge of the civilized world are now a nation of pacifists. Even the hardy horsemen who remain are under the dominance of the corrupt Buddhist priests.

It has been said of many peoples who live much in the saddle that they are "centaurs." The Mongol of today in spite of loss of his warrior qualities has a better claim to the title than most of his competitors. The typical Mongol horseman will ride fifteen hours without a murmur but bitterly resents having to walk a hundred yards. So unused is he to walking that he has a rolling gait like that of the saltiest "sea dog." He turns to his horse in many emergencies. If a saddle strap breaks the Mongol rider pulls a few hairs from his pony's tail, braids them and uses the resulting strong cord to make his equipment as good as new. Mongolian horse races are grueling, straightaway endurance contests. Some of the wiry ponies entered in these contests have been known to gallop twenty miles without a halt.

Mongolian camels are superb beasts, very different from the ugly, flea-bitten, one-humped Arabian variety. In all the glory of their winter coats—for, strange to say, this species thrives in the cold and even delights to gambol in the snow—they are pictures of stately dignity, though in summer, when the long hair falls off in patches, they become ragged-looking.

"With His Silly Neck A-Bobbing"

Winter or summer, however, these camels retain the characteristics that Kipling has immortalized. Their kick will overturn a motor car. Their bite, followed by a twist of the lower teeth, may induce blood-poisoning.

Though the largest camel will bear only a comparatively small load, lying down and squealing if an extra pound be added, he is the only freight-carrier that can cross the desert, and even he, after some days of traveling in the sand, wears his feet to the quick. When this happens the Mongols throw the limping animal on his side, put his foot on a low stool, and cover the tender part with a patch of leather attached by thin thongs drawn through the adjacent callosities of the sole, much as a cobbler mends a shoe.

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Japan's Great Buddha Escapes Destruction

THE great bronze Buddha of Kamakura, the escape of which from damage by the recent earthquake in Japan is reported to be the subject of much rejoicing among pious Buddhists, is one of the truly wonderful statues of the world.

Huge as the statue is—fifty feet high in a sitting posture—it is faithfully proportioned and its features show a beauty and calm serenity that could hardly be excelled in a carefully modeled small image. This is seen to be an accomplishment indeed when it is realized that the eyes alone are four feet long. The eyeballs are of solid gold, and a large jewel-like boss in the center of the forehead is made of a thirty pound lump of silver.

The Daibutsu Has Weathered Other Storms

The Great Buddha, or the Daibutsu, as the Japanese call the image, has sat in its present position since 1252 and in its nearly seven centuries has looked out upon more than one great catastrophe. It has itself been endangered on several occasions. It was originally enclosed by a great temple structure, but this was destroyed by tidal waves in 1369 and again two years after Columbus discovered America. Since then the Titanic figure has sat unsheltered towering against its background of green trees and hills.

The Kamakura Daibutsu, like most bronze statues, consists only of a shell of metal and is hollow inside. A passageway leads to the interior from which one may climb on ladders to the level of the shoulders and may peep out through tiny windows.

Only in Japan can be found today a bronze statue to compare with the gigantic image at Kamakura. There is one other Diabutsu, at Nara, near Osaka, which is fifty-three feet high. This was the original colossal bronze Buddha of the islands and was cast in 749 A. D. Unlike the Kamakura statue it is still sheltered by a building.

Kamakura Was Once Capital of Japan

The Christ of the Andes on the Chile-Argentine line, one of the largest bronzes outside Japan, is 26 feet high. The Colossus of Rhodes, perhaps the best known of ancient huge bronze statues, is believed to have been 90 to 100 feet high in a standing posture. An earthquake, interestingly enough, brought about its destruction before the Christian Era.

The Daibutsu is one of the few remaining symbols of the past greatness of Kamakura, now a modest fishing village and watering-place, but once the real capital of Japan. There, in 1192, Minamoto Yoritomo, seized the governmental power and set himself up as the first Shogun, leaving the emperor a mere puppet at Kyoto. The new capital grew rapidly and before many years had a population as great as Cleveland or St. Louis. It was burned by an invading army in 1333 but partly restored. After 1455, however, when it lost even minor government institutions, it declined rapidly.

Kamakura is only about a dozen miles south of Yokohama across the little

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Guayaquil Wins Out With Good Generals

"Finally Guayaquil, awake to the new spirit of international cooperation for making the world safe from the domination of contagion, invited the foremost sanitarians of North America to coöperate with the municipality in a final drive for the extermination of the malady.

"The invitation was accepted, and American, Latin, and Nipponese fought shoulder to shoulder in a stirring battle for the last stronghold of Yellow Jack, with the result that in less than a year's time the last case of yellow fever was cured; and in less than two years all danger of its recurrence was past.

"For the first time in three-quarters of a century Guayaquil was a port against which the world no longer needed to set up the bars of quarantine.

"Guayaquil's resolution to rid itself of the Old Man of the Sea of disease, that had sat astride its neck for the better part of a century, had another and a far-reaching result. The city's spirited cooperation made it possible to stage a thorough bacteriological campaign for the definite indentification of the invisible foe that causes yellow fever and, following its identification, to make a serum that would defeat the efforts of the microscopic creature to perpetuate itself.

Japanese Scientist Traps Germ in Lair

"Hitherto it had suceeded in eluding the most unrelenting quest for it. The bacteriologists knew that it passed from the blood of a yellow-fever patient into the bill of a female Stegomyia mosquito, thence into her stomach, where it was incubated, and thence again through her bill into the blood of a well person, where it multiplied and caused yellow fever.

"But it was too elusive for microscopic or filter detection, and only through the finest work that had ever been done in a laboratory could science hope to find it.

"The man selected for the task of discovering it was that Sherlock Holmes of Bacteriadom, Dr. Hideyo Noguchi, the eminent Japanese scientist, now a member of the staff of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research. He went to Guayaquil to cooperate with the local bacteriologists, and soon they were hot on the trail of the elusive little sniper.

"Using a system of 'dark-field illumination,' whereby none of the direct rays of light sent from the mirror to illuminate the object can reach the eye, but only the reflected rays that come from the illuminated specimen, he was able to peer very deep into the ghostly realms of the infinitesimal.

"And there, in the droplets of blood from yellow-fever patients, he was able to detect a slim, shadowy, ghost-like filamental, spiral wiggler, almost as eerie as a translucent phantom, twisting and rotating its corkscrew-like way through the blood."

Vaccine Developed by Doctor Certain Preventative

"In his work Dr. Noguchi found that artificially cultivated yellow-fever germs, like those of many other diseases, lose a great many of their virus-producing qualities, although they are still virile enough to hold their own in the blood against an invasion of more toxic newcomers.

"With this fact in hand, he developed a serum for the treatment of the disease. Administered within the first four days of the patient's illness, it has, wherever tried, reduced the percentage of fatalities to a surprising degree.

"Indeed, while three out of every five yellow-fever patients die where the serum treatment is not used, only one out of ten cases terminates fatally where it is used, the mortality rate being thus cut to one-sixth its former proportions."

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Durango Real Estate Would Be Priceless in Europe

IF THE State of Durango were drained by the Rhine instead of the Nazas River of Mexico, it would undoubtedly be the subject of much controversy and many boundary lines, because Durango has a piece of real estate which would be literally worth its weight in gold in Europe—an iron mountain.

The state of Durango has an area about equal to that of Virginia, and a population estimated at about that of New Hampshire. In normal mining times more than 4,000 mining properties were operated in Durango, a number exceeded only in Chihuahua, to the north, and in Sonora, to the northeast across a strip of Chihuahua and Sinaloa. Most of the Durango mines were closed in 1915.

Near Durango City is an iron mountain—a mass of metal nearly 90 per cent pure—almost a mile long, about as tall as the Times Building in New York, and more than a thousand feet wide.

The famous iron mountain at Durango is estimated to contain 600 million tons of iron ore, which is worth seven times the value of all the gold and silver mined in Mexico in two centuries. It is believed that this deposit was formed by the same process that made the Hudson River palisades, near New York City. A big opening was made in the earth's crust, through which this enormous mass of iron was thrust up, and piled high above the surrounding territory. No one knows how deep this iron mass penetrates.

When 600 Whites Defeated 25,000 Indians

The name of the little settlement, Tepehuantes, recalls one of the earliest events in Durango's recorded history. It was the tribe which gave the name to the village which, with the Tarahumares, arose against the Spanish settlers four years before Plymouth Colony was founded. In that year some 25,000 Indians of these two tribes marched on Durango City. They killed missionaries and burned down churches as they moved. Not more than 600 white people withstood this siege and, even allowing for an exaggeration in their estimate of 15,000 of their enemy killed, the white man's victory was a terrible lesson to their assailants.

Remnants of these two tribes now sprinkle the edges of the Sierra Madre range which cuts across the northwest corner of Durango.

"Two Days" Penalty for Chat With Man

It is expressly forbidden for a woman to talk to any man, other than members of her family, outside her own home. At the tribal dances a maid who speaks to a swain incurs a penalty of two days in prison, as does her admirer.

Infidelity is punished publicly, by placing the offending couple in stocks, and having an "executioner" administer a certain number of lashes daily for two or three weeks. Each of the victims had to watch the other's punishment, and shortly before the time for its administering, couriers were sent through the village to summon the inhabitants that they might profit by the object lesson.

Mescal, pulque and aguardiente are Mexican drinks of wide reputation but these tribes had a beverage, tesvino, peculiar to them. Tesvino is a beer, of milk and water hue, tastes like kumyss, and is made from maish cora and grass seed.

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peninsula that helps enclose Tokyo Bay on the southwest. Being thus in easy reach of Yokohama and Tokyo and the teeming plains nearby, the Great Buddha of Kamakura draws annually many thousands of pilgrims from the Buddhist portion of the population and is probably much better known than the slightly larger Daibutsu at Nara.

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VACCINATING AGAINST YELLOW FEVER

Once Dr. Noguchi isolated the yellow fever germ, it was easy to make a serum against it. The anti-yellow fever vaccine is almost as effective as the antityphoid serum. (See Bulletin No. 2.)

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New Zealand; Italy of the Southern Hemisphere

PREOCCUPIED with the sorrows and tribulations of Europe, America and much of the rest of the world tends to neglect the coming countries, Brazil, Argentina, South Africa, Australia and others, which give promise of being the future great and powerful states. New Zealand, the Italy of the Southern Hemisphere, is one member of this group of states which are too peaceful and prosperous to make the headlines.

This British Dominion nearest to the South Pole is spoken of so often as "the Antipodes of Great Britain" that the opinion is common that its climate is the same in every respect. There are many similarities, it is true, but in general it is the warmer half of England that is most nearly like the cooler half of New Zealand. The distance separating the northernmost mainland point of Great Britain from the North Pole is 800 miles less than the distance between New Zealand's southernmost point and the South Pole; and North Cape, New Zealand, is a full 600 miles closer to the Equator than the sun-bathed Riviera of southern France and Italy.

Citrus Fruits Grown in "Toe"

It is to Italy, in fact, that New Zealand may perhaps best be compared even though the one is a peninsula and the other an island group. By a strange freak of geographical conformation, the two large islands that practically make up New Zealand form, when taken together, almost as perfect a "boot" as the famous "Boot of Italy." It is perhaps more properly the unbooted leg and foot of a man that the shape of New Zealand approaches. The range of north latitude covered by Italy almost exactly corresponds to the degrees of south latitude covered by New Zealand; and just as the Calabrian "toe" of Italy reaches southward into the Mediterranean, so the "instep" and "toe" of the Auckland Peninsula of New Zealand extend equatorward into the warmer waters of the Pacific.

With its comparison to Italy in mind, it is easy enough to understand how the warmest parts of New Zealand can produce citrus fruits. Until quite recently fruit culture had been confined to the common orchard fruits of the temperate zones and had naturally been developed south of the warmest regions of North Island. Even as late as 1916 New Zealand was dependent on imports to furnish the lemons which the islanders consumed. The lemon industry has gained rapidly since that time and latest reports show that one New Zealand firm alone has handled 11,000 cases of domestic lemons this year.

Native Canoe Races Make American Regattas Tame

Although New Zealand can develop in its warmer regions a citrus fruit industry of considerable importance, it is as a dairy and sheep country that it is best known and probably will continue to be known. In a recent year its wool exports were valued at more than $80,000,000, and its exported mutton and lamb at more than $30,000,000, while the butter and cheese and milk shipped out of the country were worth upwards of $50,000,000.

The Maoris, natives of New Zealand, celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a canoe regatta and hurdle racing.

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Tesvino a Staff of Life for Indians

These Indians retain symbols introduced by early missionaries but little Christianity. When they worship pagan gods before a Christian cross they pour out libations of tesvino. They feed it to infants along with their mothers' milk to ward off sickness. They use it as a liniment, and take it internally, for every ill. They employ it at religious ceremonies.

Certain activities make the State of Durango distinctive. One is the wild coffee which grows on the hill slopes, producing a small berry with a delicious flavor. From these uncultivated bushes the natives gather their entire coffee supply.

Durango City Beset by Scorpions

Durango City, with its reinforced concrete buildings, still is beset by scorpions. This type of lizard is indigenous to the state and in Durango City alone its deadly sting causes from thirty to forty deaths each year.

One of the oddest customs of Durango is the funeral ceremony for children. Through the streets moves a procession that suggests a fete day. Both men and women compose the gay crowd, some on horseback, some on foot. There is the music of violin and the beating of drums. You ask the reason. "They are burying an angel," a native tells you. You note at the head of the marchers a woman holding aloft a bundle swathed in white. That, your informant explains, is the child.

When a babe dies in these parts the parents must not weep. To do so would delay the child's entry into Paradise until it had gathered all the tears.

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THE BURRO—SOMETIMES SPOKEN OF AS THE MEXICAN CANARY

This animal is admirably suited to the needs of the Mexican peon. He is the personification of patience. About all that anyone ever does for a burro is to make him work or to collect 15 pesos for his remains after he has stolidly permitted himself to be run over on a railroad. The process of making a burro work often entails what might seem to be considerable brutality. If the Mexican has any feeling for animals, he rarely exhibits such feeling in the presence of a foreigner; but the burro never seems to mind. The longer you observe him working or eating, or merely in a trance, the more surely will you wonder whether he is a stoic or whether he, too, is unfeeling as regards animals, until you hear and see him burst forth into song. Then you know that the burro is neither stoic nor clod. He has great feeling—all the feelings. He simply lacks means of expression excepting that of song, and in song he pours out all his joys and hopes, all his suffering and anguish, his longing, his very soul. (See Bulletin No. 4.)

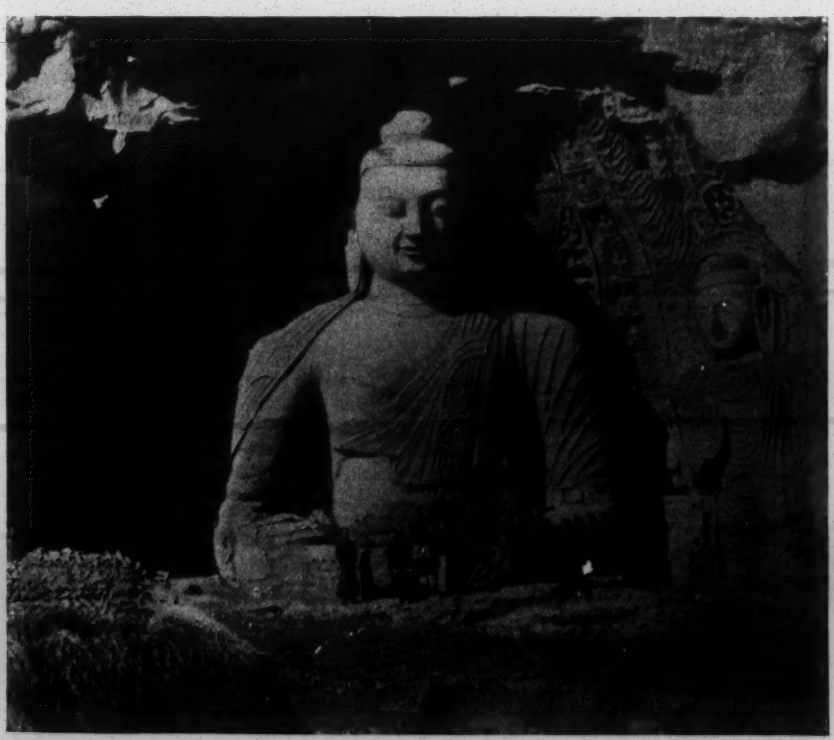
Prior to the day, the Maoris collect from all the adjacent territory, bringing with them their prize canoes, each dug out of the trunk of a tree. Some of these boats are large enough to carry a crew of from 30 to more than 40 paddlers. These are not for hurdling, however!

The program includes many and varied events, but the great attraction is the hurdle racing, just as the steeplechase attracts the eager crowd at a turf event. This is not belittling the excitement over the big canoe races. There is not the fun in these, however, as there are no accidents, while the hurdle racing is one continuous series of them—a spill at practically each hurdle, of which there are usually three or four.

Make Canoes Mount Twelve Inch Hurdles

Unless the bow of the canoe is well out of the water, it cannot take the hurdle, which is from 12 to 18 inches above the surface. The object is to get up such speed that when the bow slides on the hurdle the smooth and well-greased bottom will continue to glide till past the center of gravity, when the members of the crew run forward and their weight causes the bow to go down with a "flop" and the stern slides off. The bow usually dips under and partly fills the canoe with water, which is removed by rocking or is splashed out with the aid of the flat of the paddle.

Sometimes about four or five canoes come down almost simultaneously, the crews yelling like fiends, and there is a thrilling mix-up, from which the brainest crew, with the best of luck, gets out of the ruck and away.



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A GREAT STONE FIGURE OF BUDDHA IN CHINA

China has its Buddhas as well as Japan. But the large statues in the Republic are generally carved out of stone, whereas the great Buddha of Japan is bronze. Four persons can play bridge on the palm of the hand in the above illustration. (See Bulletin No. 3.)